

Flies & Lies

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLYFISHERS
OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA
NOVEMBER 2010

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MONTHLY MEETINGS

Meetings at Miraflores Park
17th Avenue between
Belmont and LaRua

BUSINESS MEETING
1ST TUESDAY, 7 PM

BULL SESSION
2ND THURSDAY, 6:30
PM

**CASTING & TYING
CLINIC**
3RD SATURDAY, 9 AM

Greetings everyone! Tuesday Nov 2nd is **Election Day** so please go the polls and vote and then come to the November Club Meeting and vote for our officers and directors for 2010. Jay Williams, Nominations Chair, will present the nominees at the November meeting.

Program November 2nd...Bob Korose will present a slide show of his recent trip to Alaska complete with lots of beautiful fish and bears!

The Christmas Party is December 14 at the new Holiday Inn on Davis near University Mall. Karen Brand will be selling tickets at all three of the club meetings in November. Ticket prices (\$25-\$27) will be finalized at the November business meeting. Dinner will be an "old fashioned country buffet."

Appetizers

Stuffed mushrooms, meatballs, chicken wings, eggrolls

Entrees

Southern fried chicken

Roast beef

Garlic Mashed Potatoes and Veggie Medley

Tossed salad, Rolls and Butter

Chef's Choice Desert

Karen and John Brand will put together a slide show presentation for the Christmas Party. Please bring Karen or send Karen your pictures of fishing excursions or club events and I will put together the presentation for the party. She needs pictures in digital format and you can either email them or bring them to the November meeting.

Raffle prizes for the Christmas Party will be on sale at all meetings up to and including Party Night, \$5 apiece or 6 for \$25. Prizes include (1) Orvis 3wt Superfine rod, (2) 8wt TLS rod, (3) Battenkill I Reel with Wf3F line/backing, (4) Mid-Arbor IV Reel with WF8F line/backing, (5) Saltwater Fly Tying Kit with materials to tie 100 or more Clouser Minnows, Deceivers and Gurglers, (6) Trout Fly Tying Kit with materials to tie 100s of dry flies, nymphs and streamers.

Business Meeting, Fly Fishers Of Northwest Florida, October 5, 2010, President Larry Goodman, presiding

President Larry Goodman called the meeting to order at 7 pm with 18 members present. Gordon Kelsey was introduced as a new member. The minutes of the September 7, 2010 board and business meetings as published in the October 2010 newsletter were approved.

The September 2010 treasury report was discussed by Larry Sisney and approved. Three admission cards to Sam's Club had been purchased for club use for the amount of \$105. One card was assigned to Russ Shields and one card was assigned to Jerry Giles because of their cooking duties. The third card was kept by the treasurer Larry Sisney. The cards only entitle the card holder admission to Sam's Club and can not be used for purchases.

The Christmas Party has been set for December 14, 2010 at the Holiday Inn. Dinner tickets will go on sale at \$25 each. Russ Shields and Larry Sisney will meet with the Holiday Inn staff before the next meeting to iron out details. Raffle prizes will be discussed at the November meeting. Larry Goodman will send out an E mail asking for a head count in the very near future.

The membership approved the purchase of 12 bases and one white-board with markers to be used in the fly tying classes.

The membership was reminded to complete the recent E mail questionnaire sent out by the membership committee and return it by E mail as soon as possible. Approximately 30% of the membership have responded thus far. Results of the questionnaire will be reported at the November meeting. The results may have some influence on which direction the club moves in the future.

Jay Williams will announce the nominating committee's slate of officers at the November business meeting. At that time additional nominations may be made from the floor. The club will then vote to elect the new slate of officers for the year 2011.

Russ Shields volunteered to become the new fly tying class coordinator and Art de Tonnancourt volunteered to take over the club cooking duties from Russ.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm. Bob Willice secretary

Casting & Tying at the Club.... Tom Regina

November 11 Monthly Bull Session, 6:30 PM. Russ Shields will lead us in tying the "Sand Flea".

November 20 Monthly Casting and Tying Clinic, 9 AM until about 1 PM. Casting instruction and practice with John Brand. Fly tying the " Hammerhead " with Tom Regina.

Your club will provide all tying materials to tie both flies. If you have them, bring your vise and tools. The club can also provide a vise and tools for you and your guests. Bring your long rod to the Saturday casting clinic. Club fly rods/reels are available for you and your guests also.

Free lunch and beverages will be provided at the Saturday Casting and Tying Clinic. Bob Korose will fix a gourmet lunch of mesquite grilled chicken breast sandwiches for us and our guests. Free beverages are available for all club bull sessions, clinics, and meetings.

Sand Flea... Russ Shields

A few weeks ago, fishing with Art DeTonnancourt and Baz Yelverton we had a chance to try to catch some Pompano which were cruising just outside of the surf line in very clear water. We could see them coming and could cast in front of them hoping for a strike. Baz had a Sand Flea/Mole Crab imitation made with a foam carapace but he didn't think it looked quite right and was not a good color match the Fleas we have here. I took it home with me to try to improve on it and while working on that, thought of a completely different approach using EP type fiber. Remembering a technique of tying the tail ends of the fibers on a fly to resemble a baitfish, I thought I could create the somewhat football shape of the real Sand Flea and with the colors to imitate its eggs and inner body structure. Some writers say that Pompano are attracted to the orange color of the eggs attached to the female Fleas body, and we know that orange and yellow on Pompano flies seem to work pretty well. So give this a try in the Pompano runs this fall and next spring. By the way, Art caught a very nice Pompano which became his dinner that night.

Instructions for tying the Sand Flea (Mole Crab)

Hook: Mustad 34007 #6 or #4
Inner body: Bright Orange Poly Yarn tag, medium pearl ice chenille body
Eyes: 5/32 inch chromed Lead dumbbell eye
Under body: Off-White Polar Fiber
Wing: Gray Polar Fiber
Thread: 3/0 white, 8/0 gray (for the head)



1. De-barb the hook and put it in your vise. Starting at the hook eye, wrap close turns of white thread to the rear, stopping just below the start of the hook bend. Return the thread to a point 1/3 rd of the hook length back from the eye and tie on the dumbbell eye on top of the hook shank.

2. Tie on a short length of orange poly yarn for the tag extending about 1/4 inch behind the hook bend. Just in front of the hook bend, and on top of the orange yarn, tie in the Pearl chenille and wrap it in close turns to the dumbbell eye. Tie it off with half hitches behind the eye and move the thread in front of the dumbbell eye.



3. Cut a bundle of Off-White Polar Fiber about 2 inches long and about 3/16th of an inch thick and securely tie it on top of the hook shank in front of and also behind, the dumbbell eye. Taper the front of the fiber and keep it clear of the hook eye.

4. Invert the hook in the vise and tie on a two inch long and slightly larger bundle of Gray Polar Fiber in front of the dumbbell eye. Tie it securely and form a tapered head keeping the hook eye clear. If you wish, tie in a few (3 or 4) strands of pearl Polar Flash on top of the grey Polar fiber.



5. Remove the hook from the vise and re-insert it upright, with the tag or tail pointing to the right. Stroke the two bundles of fiber to the rear and try to arrange them so that they go completely around the hook shank, slightly covering the orange tag.

Sand Flea.... Russ Shields (continued)



6. Using some waxed white thread, make a large overhand knot and slip it over the ends of the fiber bundles. Tie the knot tight behind the orange tag, forming a football shaped body of the fly. Tie several tight knots to secure the tail of the fly. Cut the thread tags and ends of the fibers leaving about a 3/16th inch tail behind the thread ties. Using the bodkin put some head cement on the thread ties.

7. Reverse the hook in the vise and tie in the 8/0 thread to form a smooth, finished head for the fly. Coat the head generously with head cement or epoxy.



Fly Fishing the Klickitat River.... David Burton



The Klickitat River, located in Southeastern Washington is one of the state's longest free flowing rivers, stretching over 75 miles from its glacial source to the mouth of the Columbia River. The Klickitat River originates from numerous small tributaries that course from the rugged, jagged, snow capped peaks of Mount Adams a 12, 276-foot active volcano and flows across the Lincoln Plateau. On its 5000 foot decent to the Columbia, the Klickitat tumbles over massive boulders, slices through narrow substratum chutes, and weaves around log-jams and other natural river obstacles. Approximately a mile upstream from the mouth of the river, the Klickitat narrows into a torrent chute where salmon and steelhead strain against the strong currents of the river, dodging boulders and other obstruction to journey upriver. The formation of the "Narrows" supports one of only two active Native American dip-net fisheries in the Columbia River Basin.



If you are into "catching (daily hookups)" steelhead fishing and the Klickitat may not be for you. However, if you like a fly fishing challenge the wait is worth it as the wild Klickitat steelhead are strong fighters and much larger fish than you will find in other lower Columbia River tributaries. The Klickitat is listed as "wild and scenic" by the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. This Pacific Northwest steelhead and salmon stream is like no other place I have ever seen in the lower 48; rugged scrub oak and pine cover hillsides of this steep river basalt gorge, creating a unique and beautiful environment for a day of fly fishing.



No monsters were caught on this trip but still a thrill. The steelhead pictured are average size for the Klickitat. These fish would be above average in size, by approximately 4-5 pounds, compared to the average steelhead on the Deschutes in Oregon. Also exciting was catching "Jacks" (small Chinook Salmon). First time for this writer to catch a Klickitat salmon on a steelhead fly. Gear: 7 wt. spey rod, 550 grain Skagit head with running line, 9' sinking tip, 6' leader with heavy weighted flies.

The Hammerhead... Tom Regina

This "Hammerhead" fly is a knockoff of a fly by the same name I found at a Bass Pro Shop. Roan Zumfeide designed the original Hammerhead for taking snook. The snook Hammerhead looked "bassie" so I purchased one and used it to take several smallmouth bass on a slow day of fishing.

The Hammerhead floats well in the surface film of the water and as a bass fly is somewhat representative of a floating frog (depending on color) with the tail imitating the stretched out legs. The Hammerhead also mimics an injured baitfish. My best results using the Hammerhead came when I cast to likely holding spots, let the fly sit for at least a full minute then stripped it only about an inch to give it a slight amount of movement... and repeat. The tail and body, being made from rabbit strips, gives the Hammerhead life-like movement both when being stripped and when sitting. The slightest water movement causes the rabbit strips to come to "life".

The Hammerhead may be tied in an array of single or multi color combinations. Let your imagination be your guide... within reason.

Tying Materials

Hook:	Mustad S71SZ size 2/0
Thread:	3/0 brown
Tail:	Light brown 1/8-inch rabbit zonker strips
Tail flash:	Rusty brown Krystal Flash
Body:	White crosscut rabbit strip
Body flash:	Olive Krystal Flash
Thread head:	3/0 brown
Weed brush guard:	Hard, stiff monofilament
Head:	Tan 2mm tan closed cell foam
Eyes:	4.5mm red solid eyes
Adhesive:	Cyanoacrylate (super glue) and epoxy



Tying Instructions.



1. **Lay down a thread base.** Debarb the hook if desired. Place the hook in the vise. Using a jam knot start the thread on the hook shank at a distance equal to two hook eye widths back from the hook eye. In neat touching turns wrap the thread back to a point on the hook shank directly above the hook point or spear. Take the thread forward to the shank mid point.



2. **Tie on the tail.** Cut two strips of light brown rabbit from the zonker. Cut each equal in length to about one-and-one-half times the hook length or about 2 1/4 inch. Cut away the fur from about a forth-inch of hide at the *front* of each cut strip. *Note: To determine the front of the tail or strip, lay the cut strips in front of you with the ends right and left. The fur on the hide will "flow" naturally away from one end... this end is the front of the tail.* Cut the fur away right down to the hide. Tie the bared hide of one strip, fur side out, to the far side of

the hook shank. With tight thread wraps bind the hide down back to a point directly above the hook point. Take the thread forward to the shank mid point. *Note: Do not allow the hide to migrate away from the side of the hook.* In a like manner tie the second tail strip to the near side of the hook. Take the thread forward to the shank mid point.



3. **Tie on the tail flash.** Cut four to six strands of rusty brown Krystal Flash from the skin. At the thread hang point fold the flash in half around the thread. Lay the flash toward the rear on the far side of the hook and bind the flash to the side of the hook back to position above the hook point. *Note: Do not allow the flash to migrate away from the side of the hook.* Take the thread forward to the shank mid point. In a like manner tie a second bunch

of flash to the near side of the hook. Let the thread hang at the rear of the flash tie-on thread wraps.



4. **Wrap the body.** Select a white crosscut rabbit strip. Orientate the strip in front of you with the hide at the top and the natural lay or flow of the fur toward your left. Measure and cut the hide about four-inches long. With the hide orientated as above, cut the hair away from about 3/16-inch of the right end of the hide. Cut the fur away right down to the hide. Cut the bare end of the hide to a 45-degree angle. Orientate the crosscut rabbit strip at the

hook with the fur side out and the natural flow of the fur toward the rear of the hook. At the thread hang point, tie the 45-degree hide angle in with several tight thread wraps. Take the thread forward to the point on the hook shank a distance

The Hammerhead.... Tom Regina (continued)

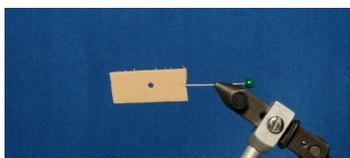
equal to two hook eye widths back from the hook eye. Wrap the crosscut strip forward in tight, touching, but not overlapping wraps. With each wrap of the strip, stroke the fur of the preceding wrap toward the rear so as not to trap fur under the next wrap. Palmer the strip forward to the thread hang point. Tie off and cut away the excess strip.



5. **Tie in the body flash.** Cut two or three strands of olive Krystal Flash from the skein. At the thread hang point fold the flash in half around the thread. Lay the flash toward the rear on the far side of the hook and bind the flash to the side of the hook. *Note: Do not allow the flash to migrate away from the side of the hook.* Cut away the tips of the olive flash so they are equal in length to the body. In a like manner tie a second and third bunch of flash to the near side and top of the hook.



6. **Tie on the weed brush guard.** Cut about a three inch length of hard, stiff monofilament from the spool. Tie a loose overhand knot at the middle of the cut length of monofilament. Slip the loose knot over the hook eye with the "knot" up. Tighten the knot around the hook shank at a point about one-half hook eye distance back from the hook eye. Use tight figure-eight thread wraps to solidly fasten the weed guard to the hook shank. Do not crowd the hook eye. In the same manner as you would build a parachute wing post, post the weed guard legs together *under* the hook. It matters not whether the legs of the weed guard flare somewhat or if they are close together. *Note: If you have trouble making a weed guard... tie the fly without one.* Take the thread slightly toward the rear and form a short, neatly tapered thread head over the body flash tie in thread wraps and the butt end of the body. Whip finish or half-hitch the thread wraps but do not cut away the thread. Apply a small amount of head cement to the thread head. Cut the weed guard legs to a length equal to the hook throat.



7. **Prepare the foam head piece.** Cut a rectangular piece of 2mm closed foam that measures 1 1/8 x 1/2-inch. In the center (side-to-side, left-to-right) make a 3/16-inch hole through the cut foam piece. *Note: A rotary leather punch is an ideal tool for this purpose.*



8. **Place the foam head piece on the hook.** Orientate the foam head piece under the head area and parallel to the fly. Slip the hole in the head piece over the weed guard legs in such a way the weed guard legs are in front of the bottom half of the prepared foam.



9. **Form the head.** With your left thumb and index finger hold the bottom half of the foam head piece hard against the bottom of the fly head area. With your right thumb and index finger pull the front or top of the foam head piece forward and up and slip the hole in the head piece over the hook eye. While still holding the bottom of the foam head piece against the bottom of the fly, fold the front or top of the foam over the top of the fly. Take two or three firm but not tight "hammerhead" forming thread wraps around the center of the foam head. Push the foam head forward and hard against the base of the weed guard legs. Take

several more thread wraps directly over the previous two or three wraps. Each successive thread wrap should be made tighter than the previous wrap until the head is securely fastened to the hook. Half-hitch or whip finish the hammerhead forming thread wraps and cut the thread away. Apply only a very small amount of head cement to the finish thread wraps to hold the thread in place until the epoxy is applied.



10. **Fit the eyes and epoxy the head.** To fit the solid eyes into the sides of the head it may be necessary to shorten the eye posts'. Test fit an eye post by inserting the post into the front of the fold at the side of the head. Shorten or cut the post with small wire cutters until the underside or base of the eye is flush against the side of the head. Use a bodkin to apply a very small drop of super glue into the forward inside part of the fold. *Note: This very small drop of glue is intended only to hold the eye in place until epoxy is applied to the*

head and has cured. Insert the fitted eye post into the fold with the eye as far forward as it will go. Fit the other eye in a like manner. Apply a thin first coat of epoxy to the head from and including the hammerhead forming thread wraps, forward to the hook eye. Be sure to also cover the solid eyes with epoxy. *Caution: Do not apply epoxy in back of the hammerhead thread wraps as the epoxy may migrate onto body fur. Likewise do not get epoxy in the hook eye.* Do however be sure to apply epoxy in any void between the front of the head and the weed guard. Allow the first coat of epoxy to cure completely before applying a second thin coat.

Fishing Report... Captain Baz Velverton

How about an October with no tropical activity! The waters in the Gulf of Mexico, Santa Rosa Sound, and Pensacola Bay are as beautiful as you will ever see them. A guide buddy of mine was even **sight-fishing** in Catfish Basin way up around the mouth of the Yellow River! Amazing, and I guess you could say we are due. It was a tough summer.



October was a great month with the fly rods. Some of the most exciting action occurred at Town Point with Spanish mackerel in the 4-7# range. The fish were there all month until another guide took some clients there in their own boat. Every day for a week they were anchored killing every fish landed, and now the Spanish are gone. Sad but true. But we sure enjoyed them earlier in the month. Here are some nice shots to verify the size of these monsters. First, Stephen Larson, Atlanta, on October 12 with an impressive example. Then



there's none other than our own Russ Shields with a beauty landed October 21. The good news is I've found them in another location in Santa Rosa Sound. We landed the all-time boat record yesterday on spinning tackle...one of about ten landed and released unharmed.



The Gulf of Mexico has been very productive in October, also. The pompano are there, but you've got to pick them out before casting. Otherwise you might lose your fly to a bluefish. Of course the bluefish are a lot of fun, too. Just have to be properly leaedered. Glenn Evans, Tulsa, OK, had a ball with both species on October 5, and here are the pictures to prove it. The good news is these fish will be here until December, so find your favorite little pocket close to shore and stake out. If I were you I'd have the little yellow pompano fly...



The action at the USS Massachusetts is the hottest ever. I've never seen as many big Spanish mackerel and king mackerel at the "Mass". Best time is on strong outgoing water. Fish the south side of the wreck. Tan/white Clouser minnows are my favorites...

It's time for the "running of the bulls", but it hasn't started yet. I'm hoping the cold front coming through tonight will start the menhaden migration which keys the beginning of the big event. Once the redfish find the menhaden it's going to be wild, and you want to be there...10wt in hand....Capt Baz

Around the Bay... and Further Away

From new member Freddie Thronson....

Hi, just got back from fly fishing trip to Boone NC, beautiful weather, good fishing on trout stream. Here is a picture of my first trout caught fly fishing.



From Terry McCormick and Jerry Aldridge....

We were lucky to find the huge Spanish near Town Point, too....thanks to Capt Baz's tip. Terry was the photographer so you won't find his picture (or maybe the editor deleted it). We hooked many, landed a few and released all. What a fun morning!



Joe Higgins has a source for members who want to put the clubs logo on their shirts, jackets and hats. Cost \$4.50 per logo. Bring garments to the monthly club meeting or Saturday clinic. Also club name tags are available for \$7.00.



NOVEMBER 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Business Meeting 7 PM				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			Bull Session-Tying & Tall Tales 6:30 PM			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
					Clinic - Casting, tying, gourmet lunch 9 AM	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				